



### **Native American Heritage Month - Exclusive Collections Gallery**

Founded in 1995, Exclusive Collections gallery is a firm believer that art plays an integral part of our lives. Each art piece displayed at the gallery presents an opportunity to share the love of art with the next generation. Consistently striving to make art accessible to all audiences, Exclusive Collections has fostered relationships with clientele from around the globe who are dedicated to the mission EC Gallery displays.

### **What opportunities have contributed to your success?**

The most impactful opportunities for my success arise when I am able to serve others. Whether it involves assisting artists in selling their art or mentoring young women from underserved communities, my belief is that serving others generates positive energy and opens doors to new opportunities.

### **How do you market your business to reach a diverse audience?**

At our gallery, we have consciously curated a diverse collection of artwork with the belief that art is for everyone. We strive to create an inclusive space where individuals from all walks of life feel welcomed and appreciated. Additionally, we find that word of mouth is still a powerful marketing tool, especially when people experience the diversity we cultivate within the arts.

**How has the Downtown Diversity Spotlight Program (DSDP) enhanced your organization's presence in the market?**

The support received from the Downtown Diversity Spotlight Program has been incredible! During our grand opening, they were there alongside our district Councilman, Steven Whitburn. It is reassuring to know that we have the ability to reach out to them with any concerns or inquiries, strengthening our presence in the downtown market.

**As we celebrate Native American Heritage Month, what message would you like to share as a diverse business owner?**

Native American Heritage Month provides a valuable opportunity to reflect on the indigenous peoples of North America. Often, the media and movies have portrayed us in a negative light. However, we are a resilient people who have made significant contributions to the world in various fields such as art, science, and music. We cordially invite you to our Native American art show, November 10-12, 2023, where you can meet internationally acclaimed Native American artists and hear their stories of how they preserve their culture through the arts.

**What does being a diverse business owner mean to you?**

In Native culture, we embrace a philosophy of unity within our tribes. No individual holds more importance than another within our circle. Instead, we acknowledge different talents and abilities that collectively enable the entire tribe or team to thrive. This mindset informs my approach as a business owner—I see myself as working with my team towards a common goal, rather than having them work for me.

**How do you promote and celebrate diversity within your organization?**

Just as diversity is prevalent in nature, it is also celebrated within the arts. For the past 27 years as an art dealer, I have viewed people through the same lens as nature, recognizing that beauty lies in their unique qualities. This perspective allows me to foster an environment where diversity is cherished and celebrated.

Link to website: <https://ecgallery.com/>